

(c) contacting the wood substrate with a second formulation comprising an oxidizing agent and a solvent,

(d) penetrating the surface of the wood substrate with an effective amount of the second formulation, thereby reacting the first and second formulations with each other in contact with the wood substrate, and imparting a stable change to the characteristics of the wood substrate,

wherein the metal salt is selected from the group consisting of silver sulfate, silver perchlorate, silver nitrate, silver sulfate, iron (II) chloride, zinc perchlorate, iron (II) perchlorate, iron (II) sulfate, copper acetate, magnesium thiosulfate, copper nitrate, copper II carbonate dihydroxide, copper sulfate, titanium III sulfate, magnesium nitrate, cerium (III) perchlorate, and cerium nitrate, and combinations.

8. (Amended) A method for treating a wood substrate comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting a surface of a wood substrate with a first formulation comprising a metal salt and a solvent,

(b) penetrating the surface of the wood substrate with an effective amount of the first formulation to penetrate the wood substrate, and sequentially

(c) contacting the wood substrate with a second formulation comprising an oxidizing agent and a solvent,

(d) penetrating the surface of the wood substrate with an effective amount of the second formulation, thereby reacting the first and second formulations with each other in contact with the wood substrate, and imparting a stable change to the characteristics of the wood substrate,

wherein the metal salt is selected from the group consisting of molybdenum (VI) oxide, zinc sulfate, copper (II) chloride, nickel perchlorate, nickel sulfate, copper (II) chloride, nickel

perchlorate, nickel sulfate, copper (II) perchlorate, tin (II) sulfate, tin (I) chloride, chromium (III) sulfate, aluminum sulfate, cerium (III) perchlorate, zinc peroxide, titanium hydride, chromium (III) perchlorate, manganese (II) chloride, aluminum chloride, titanium (IV) chloride, silver perchloride, and titanium (II) sulfate, and combinations.

Kindly rewrite claims 12, 13, 14 and 53 as follows:

12. (Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the wood substrate is pine.

13. (Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the wood substrate is selected from the group consisting of soft woods, porous surface woods and close grain wood, and exposed wood in manufactured products.

14. (Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the wood substrate is a manufactured wood product

53. (Amended) Treating and coloring a wood substrate with the kit of claim 30, comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting the wood substrate with the first component solution preparation comprising the oxidizable metal salt, and allowing an effective amount of the first component solution preparation to penetrate the wood substrate, and sequentially,

(b) contacting the wood substrate with the second component solution preparation comprising an oxidizing agent, and allowing an effective amount of the second component solution preparation to penetrate the wood substrate, thereby

reacting in situ within the wood substrate the first and the second component solution preparations with each other in contact with the wood substrate, and imparting a stable color change to color characteristics of the wood substrate.